

Oxford Democrat.

Volume 7.

Paris, Maine, Tuesday, October 15, 1899.

Number 9.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT,

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY BY

C. W. ELLIOTT,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS:—One dollar and fifty cents in advance; one dollar and seventy-five cents at the end of six months; two dollars at the end of the year, to which twenty-five cents will be added if payment be delayed beyond six months.

ADVERTISEMENTS inserted on reasonable terms, the proprietor not being accountable for any error beyond the amount charged for the advertisement.

BOOK & JOB PRINTING
Executed with neatness and despatch.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MAY MARTIN: OR THE MONEY DIGGERS.

A GREEN MOUNTAIN TALE.

BY D. P. THOMPSON OF MONTPELIER, VT.
[CONTINUED.]

"O heavens and earth!" exclaimed Martin leaping up and rubbing his hands in ecstasy, "but mark the spot, Gow, where it lies."

"I have," replied the other, taking his face from the hat, "the view has all died away now, and I shall not probably get another" at this time. But what a glorious sight! Oh! my stars, if you could have seen it! The first day we were out here, and when I strayed from you, as you remember I did, I cut and tried a dividing rod, and from the working of it in my hand I became satisfied that there was a treasure near this mountain, as I afterwards hinted to you, but I certainly never dreamed of such a mint of coined money.—But come, let us go the spot, and put some private marks on the trees as near the place as we can hit by guess."

So saying, Gow pocketed his magic spellum, and hastily setting out for the place just designated as the spot where the treasure lay concealed, they soon came opposite to the tall tree and rock before mentioned, and halted close to the foot of the mountain.

"There!" exclaimed Gow, looking round and measuring the spot with his eye, "there Martin, with in the compass of one acre around us, I will stake my life, there lies beneath the ground more than ten thousand hard dollars; but," he continued with a look of mysterious gravity, "but it may require much time and labor to find it; and we may have to fight dead men and devils, before we get fairly hold of it."

"I will agree to fight both to their teeth, to get hold of the tenth part of that sum!" cried the other in a boastful rapture.

"Well then," said Gow, "we will now begin to think of the project in good earnest. But as it will take much hard digging probably to reach the treasure—more, doubtless, than we with our single hands, can ever expect to do, we shall be compelled to form a small company of four or five trusty individuals beside ourselves, and then we shall be able to do business to some effect."

"Why, yes, but cannot we get along without this?" said the avaricious Martin. "We might then have all the money ourselves."

"Ay, ay, if we could, and that were all, but you must know that there are some conditions to be complied with in this business; for beside their labor, which we shall need, you forget that I cannot exercise my skill, in making you rich for nothing, and you will hardly be willing, or able, alone, to raise the sum I shall make you agree to give me before I go on."

"How much?" asked the other with symptoms of alarm.

"Not less than five hundred dollars."

"What! five hundred dollars and go shares too?"

"Exactly. If I only went shares, what should I get for my skill?"

"Yes, but five hundred dollars!" it is extortion Gow, rank extortion! and I won't give it—I will go alone first."

"Go then," said Gow with a cold sneer, "and we will see how much you will make by money digging without me."

"I did not mean any offence Mr. Gow," rejoined Martin, in an apologetic tone, seeing the determined manner too far with him, "I mean no sort of offence, but how can I raise such a sum?"

"True," said Gow, "I knew you could not, and therefore had an additional reason for proposing to form a company; and this we must do—one hundred dollars a piece will then be all that's required."

"And one hundred is more than I know how to raise," observed Martin, despondingly.

"I shall be fair with the company," said the other, without seeming to heed the last remark of Martin. "I shall be honorable, and to show them that there is no deception in the business, I will not require them to hand over the money until the first dollar of the treasure is found—and

then, before the treasure is opened, they must have it in readiness to pay over on the spot, and let me go equal shares in all that is found. These will be my conditions."

"Well, I don't see why that is not all fair." And hark'ee, friend Martin, there is perhaps one way by which I might let you off from paying the hundred dollars, or even any thing—if I thought—"

"If what?" eagerly asked the other, if there is any such chance for me, for heaven's sake let me know it—any thing that I can do—"

"Yes, yes, Martin, but there is the trouble," perhaps; for I fear that you cannot do me the favor I was thinking of, if you would, and I don't know that I ought to ask your interference—but I can name the case, and then you can tell me if you please, what your notions are on the subject. You may have already perceived, perhaps, that I have taken a fancy to your adopted daughter, May Martin—"

"Why, yes, but what do you want of her; it would give me a bad name if I should have any hand in—"

"O, you quite mistake my intention—as I said I have taken a fancy to the girl, and I made up my mind, even on a short acquaintance to make a wife of her, if she will marry me; but she appears to be shy, and I suspect, is determined to refuse any offers I may make her. Now if in this business, you feel disposed to assist me—"

"O, if that's all, I will use all my influence to persuade her to accept your offer."

"Yes, that you of course would do, if you felt disposed to favor my suit. But can't you so manage as to warrant my success? Now, what I was going to say was this, if you will insure me the girl, I will release you from paying me a cent in this other affair, that is, if you will bring it about within a month."

"A month—that is a short time—why such haste?"

"Why it is my way of doing things in a dash.—I may as well marry now as ever; and I trust we shall reach the treasure by that time at least, when you otherwise would have to pay me over the money."

"True, I had forgotten that. Well, 'we will see what can be done. But how on earth to bring it about I know not. She is engaged to Ashley, and no doubt is determined to marry him, let who will come; and he, too, is a bold strapping fellow, who will not stand aside for a regiment."

"But he is absent."

"Yes, and that is lucky so far. If she could be weaned from him before his return and she did not write to bring him back upon us—"

"O, the last can be managed; but will he write to her?"

"I presume so, but why that question?"

"I merely asked out of curiosity. But who brings her letters from the village, where they come, I suppose?"

"I shall, probably, myself, why?"

"Now suppose you should withhold the letter, and never let her know any had come for her?"

"That might have effect in making her think she was neglected, perhaps."

"And supposing you should let me take the letter and write her one in imitation of his hand; signing his name, and let you give it to her?"

"Yes but there would be no cheating her in that way—she is as keen as a razor—I have sometimes thought she could tell my very thoughts the prying busybody!"

"But I could though I am handy with the pen and could once imitate any hand, so that the writer himself could not tell which was not his own."

"That would be rather roguish, would it not, Gow? Besides, when Ashley returned, he would raise Ned with you for such a trick."

"Why, I should calculate to make you a rich man—take the girl and be off to my own country, long before he came back. But I see you are not disposed to help me and yourself in this business—"

"O, you are mistaken; I was only contriving, and I begin to think we can manage—and if you intend to take her out of the country, wife will lend a stiff hand, depend on't. She thinks May is quite too knowing, considering, and will soon get above us all; and to tell the truth, I have had a sort of a notion that the girl would bring some bad luck to us, in one shape or other. But take her away from this place, and she will make a smart wife enough, I dare say. Gow, she shall be yours, by hook or by crook, and there's my hand on it."

This last point being settled to the mutual satisfaction of these worthy personages, they then proceeded to discuss and settle the details of the plan of operations proposed by Gow for coming

at the buried treasure; the result of which was that Martin should take upon himself the task of forming a company from such of his neighbors as he should select as most trusty and best fitted for the enterprise. The work was to be commenced as soon as a company could be formed; to be carried on in the night, and with all possible secrecy. Gow was to superintend and direct the whole business. And for the purpose, as he told Martin, of guarding the spot, always being near to catch every view which was to be had from his magic stone, and of making frequent trials of the divining rod, he was to erect a shantee on some part of the mountain above, for his chief residence, till the treasure was found, where no one was to presume on no account to approach him, pretending that he could only make his discoveries to any advantage when entirely alone. Here he was to be supplied with provisions, &c. from Martin's house, to which he should only repair for the purpose of prosecuting his suit with May. Their whole plan being thus adjusted, they returned to the house with the understanding that each should proceed to his allotted part on the following morning.

From this time every means was tried, and every art put in requisition by Martin and his wife, to forward the projected match between Gow and their adopted daughter. Their first attempts were confined to endeavors to impress her with favorable sentiments towards her new lover, and at the same time, to prejudice her mind against Ashley, and destroy the high estimation in which they well knew she deservedly held him. But not long resting satisfied with their progress in this indirect method of accomplishing their base purpose, they soon proceeded to open importunities, using every persuasion to induce her to yield to their wish, and exhausting every argument their ingenuity could invent, which they thought likely to shake her still unaltered purpose of fidelity to her betrothed lover, and turn her mind to the man of their worse than mercenary choice. Sometimes setting before her glowing pictures of the wealth and splendor to be gained by a union with Gow, and then contrasting this with the life of labor and obscurity which they told her must be her certain lot if she married Ashley; sometimes resorting to flattery, followed by abject entreaties; and sometimes to menaces and bitter denunciations in case she finally refused to comply with their wishes and commands; till the poor girl felt as if she must sink under their united persecutions. With the object of this unwearied intercession, herself, she succeeded much easier in securing herself from annoyance. He had by this time proposed himself in direct terms, and had received a decided and unqualified refusal; and the simple majority of innocence, and virtuous rectitude of purpose, all unprotected and disheartened as they were on all sides, conveyed a rebuke before which, with all his assurance he could not help quailing; and he shrank from the cold dignity of her presence, leaving her mostly unmolested by open attempts to soften her obduracy, choosing rather to rely on intrigue and deception to effect a design which he was well aware any manly or honorable course would fail of accomplishing. But this new and unexpected attempt of Martin and his wife, situated as she was, to control her inclinations, and induce her to violate her plighted faith, was much less easily combatted, and doubly enhanced her distress and perplexity. Their motives for this cruel conduct she soon rightly conjectured, must arise from some advantage to be gained by the success of their endeavors—some tempting condition by which Gow had bribed them; but why any such advantage or bribe should be offered by the latter, she was wholly at a loss to imagine. She felt satisfied that his anxiety to obtain her hand did not proceed from any love which he had so hastily entertained for her, and much less could it arise she thought from any pecuniary or other advantage, to be gained by marrying a penniless and obscure orphan. But that such was his determined purpose, she could no longer doubt, and it was equally clear to her that her parents were closely leagued with him in the design. The neighbors too, it was apparent, from their jokes and indirect advice to her, in their intercourse with the firm had been biased by the account which they had received of the new comer, and had already arrayed themselves on his side, and stood ready to advocate his cause. While the reluctance she had conceived to divulge what she knew of him, or to say aught to his disadvantage as long as he was a favored inmate of her family, mingled with a delicacy of feeling, forbidding her to discuss the character of an avowed lover, all combined to prevent her

from trying to undeceive her acquaintance in their opinion of Gow, or to make known to any one the wretchedness and difficulty of her situation. And had she attempted this, and made known her difficulties, she knew not that it would avail in changing the popular current which she saw was now setting in favor of Gow, or in alleviating her embarrassments; she resolved therefore to endure in silence, and though alone and unfriended, to persevere in her unshaken determination of resistance, till the return of Ashley should put an end to her sorrows and troubles.

"What great object do you propose to gain, May," said Martin one day during this ceaseless warfare against the peace and happiness of the persecuted girl, "What great object do you propose to gain by rejecting such a man as Mr. Gow, and accepting such a fellow as Ashley?"

"I shall at least gain the approbation of my own conscience, Father; for I have promised him solemnly, and he told me that he had your consent."

"I might have said something of the kind perhaps, when I supposed you could do no better; but these foolish promises which boys and girls make to each other,—what do they amount to? And how long does either party hesitate about breaking them, when finding they can do better with themselves, they wish to make another choice?"

"But I have no wish to make another choice, and if I had, I hardly think I should gain much by the change you propose."

"You don't pretend to compare Ashley to Mr. Gow, do you?"

"Certainly, I should not wish to compare him to this suspicious man."

"What do you mean girl? Would you insinuate any thing against the character of Mr. Gow—a gentleman, and a friend of mine as he is?"

"I do not wish to say any thing about him; but friend or gentleman, as you may believe him, you would be much better employed I suspect, in guarding yourself against his arts, than in trying to drive a poor, friendless and unprotected girl into his clutches."

"What mean you, May Martin, once more I ask," sternly demanded he, stamping on the floor.

"What reasons for your scandalous insinuation can you give? Speak—tell them, if you have any. No wonder you hesitate; for you have none to give—'tis all but a foolish, stubborn girl's whim—prejudice against a man who loves you, but who is too good for you, and condescends too much in wishing to make you rich and happy. I tell you girl, you must marry him!"

"O, I cannot Father, never never!"

"You won't then, will you? You forget that you are not of age yet and that I have an indenture in that desk that puts you completely under my control!"

"I forget nothing Sir. I know my duty and have always endeavored to do it; and can you say as much respecting the cruel course you are now pursuing towards me? Does that paper to which you so insulting allude, give you the power to dispose of me in marriage without my consent, and against my inclinations?"

"Hush! impudent!" vociferated Martin, again stamping in rage. "A lecture on my duty, hey? Fine times I should think!"

"My don't remember," chimed in Mrs. Martin with a spiteful leer and taunting tone, "My don't remember who took her when she was a little ragged outcast, that no father would come to own, and fed, clothed and educated her, and gave her a respectable home?"

"O, I have, I do remember it, said May bursting into tears, I remember it all, and would to heaven I could think of those days of kindness without associating them with later treatment—"

"With this, this bitter hour of insult and cruelty!"

"Come, come, you silly girl," said Mr. Martin, after waiting till her sobs had a little subsided, and now charging his manner into a half-expostulating tone, "Come, come, May, I do not mean to hurt your feelings—I do not wish you to do anything but what I think is for your good. You, yourself, will be as ready to marry Mr. Gow, as you are now opposed to it, as soon as you find that Ashley has left you for another sweetheart."

"Ashley?" said May slowly taking her handkerchief from her tear-bathed face, and looking at Martin with an air of mingled surprise and censure, "Mr. Ashley will never do that."

"Pshaw, nothing more likely!" responded Martin carelessly. "You don't know William Ashley as well as I do."

"Well enough however," replied May promptly, "to know that he will never do that—any sooner than I should voluntarily leave him for your Mr. Gow."

"You will hardly dare to promise to marry Mr. Gow on condition of Ashley's desertion, I suspect?"

"Indeed, I should Sir?"

"Well, let us have your promise then."

"I fear not to do it, Sir, on that condition," rejoined May in a tone of unsuspecting confidence, and if such a promise will relieve me from any more persecution, and teasing to marry Gow, till Ashley is false to me, I will make it."

"Well," observed Martin, with a well feigned air of indifference, "I will take you at your word. I suppose we must submit to the condition, though I still say we do not wish to force your inclinations, only so far as we know is for your own interest. And now you have made this promise, May, I hope you will think, should this condition be fulfilled, that it is as wicked to break your promise to Ashley?" So saying, and with a treacherous smile on his countenance, he left the room.

My m. I. I much at this unexpected termination which had been so different, & threatened so different an ending; & after Martin had retired she endeavored to draw something from his wife, which should go to explain her husband's sudden apparent willingness to drop his purpose for a promise made on a condition which she felt so confident could never happen, but the dame who was naturally taciturn and cautious, and who rarely ever betrayed the secrets of her heart with her tongue, while her cold, severe and unvarying countenance was generally equally proof against all scrutiny on what was passing within, pretended to know nothing of the affair, and after a few unsatisfactory replies, sunk into her forbidding silence. Our heroine therefore, being left to her own conjectures, and notwithstanding she felt some little misgiving relative to her promise, and an undefined suspicion that there was something wrong about it, seeing nevertheless no reason why it should be different from what circumstances purported, could not but congratulate herself on the prospect now presented, of a reprieve from her persecutions, and the latter feeling prevailing, she dismissed the subject from her mind and resumed her domestic occupations with a cheerfulness to which she had sometime been a stranger.

For nearly a week from the interview, just narrated, no allusion was made in the presence of May to the dreaded subject of a marriage with Gow; and in the respite thus allowed her she began to hope that her peace would no more be disturbed by any further recurrence of those scenes which had lately caused her so much distress and perplexity. And this hope, added to the cheering expectation she now daily entertained of receiving a letter from Ashley, imparted a new impulse to her feelings, and was just obliterating the remembrance of her late trials from her mind. But this happy quiet was not long to continue; and like the deceitful calm of the elements, which often precedes the fearful tempest, soon proved to be but the prelude to new and aggravated sorrows.

"May," said Mrs. Martin one day, as glancing through the window she saw her husband approaching the house in company with Mr. Gow; "May, did Mr. Martin bring you any letter yesterday from the village?"

"Any letter?" replied May in surprise; "bring me a letter! no; did he go to the village yesterday? In know nothing of it."

"Yes, he went," said the other with an affected common place air, "and I thought likely he might have found a letter for you there by this time—but here he comes himself, and can tell you whether he enquired for one—I'll warrant he did not though, he is such a forgetful creature—say, Mr. Martin," she continued, turning to her husband, and he now entered the room; "did you enquire at the post office yesterday for a letter for May?"

"There now!" exclaimed Martin with a seemingly abashed and self-condemning manner. "Well, if that don't beat all! I should not blame May for scolding now—for, of all forgetful fellows, I believe I must be the worst—Yes, I did call at the office, and got her a letter, from Ashley, I conclude, and here I have carried it in my pocket ever since!"

"O, how could you!—but where is it—O where is it?" eagerly exclaimed the animated girl, starting up and advancing.

"Here!" replied Martin, pulling out the letter and presenting it; "here it is; and now we shall see no more of you till that is read and re-read a dozen times over, I suppose."

As the hungry bird darts upon the luscious grape accidentally revealed to his sight while wandering weary and famished for food, so did May upon the valued prize before her; and so close was it within her eager grasp before she

here it off, with eyes sparkling with joy and triumph, to another room, there to feast on its anticipated contents which in fancy, were to thrill her own bosom with delight, and, at the same time, to furnish an ample refutation of the unjust and ungenerous surmises of Martin concerning the fidelity of her beloved Ashley. No sooner was she alone, than with trembling haste she tore open the seal and read in the well known hand of her lover, as she thought, as follows:

"Miss May Martin,
Knowing you would expect a letter from me about this time, and considering it a duty to apprise you of some changes relative to myself, I have the best to write you briefly. On my arrival at my old residence, I there met with one with whom I once had considerable intimacy, which was broken off by a misunderstanding between us, and I supposed the separation to be final. That misunderstanding is now, however, satisfactorily cleared up, and with a renewal of acquaintance, feelings which, when with you I supposed dead, have revived. I presume you would not wish to marry a man who entertains a preference to another—I think I know you too well to venture you would for a single moment endure the thought of such a union. And therefore it is extremely doubtful whether I return at all to Vermont. I have luckily found a man here who has taken my land contract in the settlement of my hands. Do not think I shall ever entertain any other feelings towards you than those of sincere friendship and the highest respect.

"WILLIAM ASHLEY."
During the perusal of the first part of this unlovely epistle, the countenance of May exhibited a surprised and disappointed expression, produced seemingly by the formal and unaccustomed introductory address, as well as not meeting with anything she expected to find. But this expression, as she continued, soon changed into a look of blank bewilderment, like that of one utterly at loss to comprehend the meaning of the writer; and it was not till she reached the concluding line that the painful truth, which the writer, with apparent reluctance, seemed impelled by a sense of duty, to communicate, flashed for the first time across her mind—then it was that the ashy paleness of dismay spread over the quivering muscles of her face; and with a hurried mechanical kind of motion she again commenced reading, trembling more and more violently as she proceeded, till her agitation becoming too great to continue the perusal, she dropped the fatal paper on the table, and lifting up her hands with a look of utter hopelessness and misery indistinctly murmured, "Oh I may not this be some dreadful dream from which I shall awake? And she pressed her hand hard upon the swelling veins of her forehead, as if to recover her consciousness. "No, no," she at length more audibly uttered in a tone of despairing grief, "no, no! wretched, O wretched, lost, wrecked and ruined! and all but Heaven has now deserted me." Tears now gushed and fell in a shower from her eyes, and, covering her face with both hands, heart-rending sobs alone gave further utterance to the agony of feeling with which her bursting bosom was laboring.

At this moment Martin, followed by Gow entered the room.
"Why! what is all this now?" exclaimed the former, in affected surprise; "What is the matter?—what can have happened, May?—O, something in the letter—but do let us see what dreadful news it contains." So saying, he officiously bustled up to the table, where May was sitting in the posture above described with the letter open before her, without moving, or offering any resistance to Martin's taking it, and seemed busily to run over the contents. "There!" he presently exclaimed, turning to his friend—"There! this is what I always expected—that fellow Ashley has cast May aside for an old sweetheart, and has had the impudence here to tell her so—though it is scarcely three weeks since he was vowing and cooing round her like all the world.—The false-hearted scoundrel! But May had fair warning how the fellow would treat her; and now I hope she will put a proper value on the offers of those who really love her and are worth a thousand such fellows to boot."

"Yes, May," said Gow in a low soothing tone as he approached and leaned over the table by her side, while Martin, under pretence of further examining the letter, moved off to an opposite window; "Yes, May, now this great obstacle to your marrying another is entirely removed, I hope you will no longer refuse to listen to my offer."
"O, do not torment me," she replied in broken utterance, her face still buried in her hands; "O, leave me alone I beseech you."

"May!" interrupted Martin sternly, remember your promise—you recollect—that Ashley deserted you! Have you forgotten it so soon?"
The wretched girl groaned aloud.

"You are silent!" continued her interrogator. "And well you may be; for you will hardly deny the solemn promise you made me not a week since; and now I call on you to fulfil it—Do you consent?"

"O have mercy—some mercy," she cried, rising and moving towards the door, "some mercy, on a poor broken-hearted girl!"

"Do what you will with me—sell me for a slave

—kill me if you please, but let me go now—O do let me go!" was the beseeching reply, as with streaming eyes and convulsive sobs she escaped from her inquisitors, & fled to her own apartment.
"Let her go, Martin," said Gow hastily, as the other was about to follow or command her back, "let her go—let the matter rest just where it is—Silence gives consent of itself—besides have you not her express leave to do with her just as you please? What more do you want?"

"Why true, Gow," replied the other, hesitating under the twinges of some remains of conscience which still lingered in despite of all the training it had lately received—"true, she all but consented—and did consent in a sort—but—but you see she is no more willing now than before—And how would you manage it?"

"Manage it! why, there is nothing to do but go a-head—You saddle your horse, and go directly to the parson;—tell him to publish the bans next Sunday, and be on hand to tie the knot on some day you and your wife shall fix on, as soon as your laws will allow; for I mean to go by Gunter in this business."

"Yes, but—"
"But what?—You are thinking about raising the hundred dollars I conclude, or you would not hesitate to go on, now your chance is so much better than ever to save it—I tell you, man one thing or the other must be done soon."

The last hint was sufficient for a man of the disposition of Martin, and he at once forgot his qualms of conscience, and tamely promised obedience to the commands of the other.

"Well, then," said Gow, "go on as I told you—the game is now within certain reach, if all is kept still.—We will let the girl alone pretty much till the day arrives, and in the mean while we will drive hard at our business at the mountain, for I should like amazingly to have a few of those jinglers in my pocket for wedding music."

"Amen to that," said Martin, as he left his friend for the business more immediately before him.

"Dirty miscreant!" soliloquized Gow, after his friend had left the room. "What a precious scoundrel, but for your pusillanimous fears which only make you hesitate here or any where!—But with all your duplicity and good will to play false with me, I can keep the knave in you straight by means of the miser and the coward. Rogue as I am, I despise you for your meanness to this noble girl, whom you should protect; and had I not a greater object in view than you can have in this affair, I would hang myself before I, who have no such duties towards her, would be guilty of even the part I am taking, though a thousand times more decent than yours. It will do me good to see you punished, as you will be with a vengeance, for this shuffling to me, and baseness to her.—Hah! you little think that while you are helping me to a fortune with one hand you are twisting a rope for your own neck with the other."

We will now follow the eager-eyed expectant of the glittering treasure to the theatre of their secret operations in the woods. A company of five individuals, besides Martin and Gow, had already been formed according to the plan before mentioned, and many nights had been spent by them in making excavations on the spot indicated by their leader who generally remained with them several hours each night in directing their movements, before he retired to his retreat on the mountain, where he had now for the most part taken up his quarters. For the first few nights of their digging he had directed their efforts to different places within a circle of some ten rods in diameter, designated by certain marks on the trees, and constituting a boundary within which, he told them, he had directed them to proceed on their excavating in the same vein, assuring them that they might depend on having centered on the right place, and to so great a certainty was this now reduced, as his stone and often tried rods informed him, that he could safely promise them that a few more nights labor would bring them to the treasure. And such being the case, he called on each man to have the bonus to be paid him on reaching the first dollar, in readiness, at the same time declined assisting them any further till they severally complied with this indispensable requisition. This, for several days, caused a suspension of their labors; for it required no small exertions on the part of the company generally, and many sacrifices on the part of some of them to raise, at that day, the necessary sum.—But their exertions and sacrifices, great as they were in some cases, were cheerfully, and even anxiously made in the fancied certainty of soon being a thousand fold repaid in the glittering harvest which they were about to reap. Farms were unhesitatingly mortgaged to distant money lenders, oxen and horses the only ones possessed by their owners, were sold at reduced prices, and all kinds of property were disposed of, or pledged for a title of its value, to meet the exigency. And so great was their activity that before one week had elapsed, every man of the company had reported himself to his leader as prepared with his hundred dollars in his pocket, and eagerly demanded to be led again to the work.

Hitherto the enterprise had been conducted with so much caution and secrecy that little was known in the neighborhood, except by those immediately concerned, of its existence, and much less of the object for which the company was formed. But either by reason of the stir created by raising the money, or because the growing certainty of success had rendered the different members of the association less guarded, vague rumors were beginning to be aloft in the neighborhood that some uncommon adventure was going on in the mountains; and many were the conjectures and dark surmises made concerning its character and object—the secrecy with which it had been conducted sufficing to throw an air of mystery and romance over the proceeding. And this had been considerably increased by the appearance about this time of a singularly accoutred old man, who had been known to enter the settlement from the north and was several times afterwards seen hovering round the outskirts of the woods, back of which was the supposed scene of these mysterious operations—some supposing him a dumb maniac, from having been met and hailed without returning any answer or showing the least sign of hearing or recognizing the presence of another. Some believing him the devil himself come to superintend the ceremonies of the black art which they suspected was in performance in the woods, and others, more given to matter of fact calculations, and disposed to view secrecy and mystery as generally the cloak of iniquity, shrewdly suspected him to be an agent sent from Stephen Burroughs's Saag-Factory in Canada, to establish a branch in this unexplored part of the Green Mountains. And it was the impression of all indeed that this strange personage had some connection with the doings of the company; though those who were supposed to be its members stoutly denied the truth of this supposition, being probably, with the exception of their leader, really as much in the dark concerning the cause of appearance and character of the old man as their neighbors.

It was on a dark night in July, a few days subsequent to the scene where we left our heroine at Martin's, that the money diggers resumed their labors. Excited by the late assurances of Gow they came one by one, stealing to the spot at an early hour, and, as usual, having kindled a small fire, and stuck a pine-knot torch in a stump on the bank of the excavation to furnish light for their operations, they waited with nervous impatience for the appearance of their leader to direct the spot on which their efforts were now to be bestowed. The latter soon made his appearance; and after giving his directions with the mysterious gravity with which he had sustained his part through the whole enterprise, and seeing them fairly at work, he soon informed them that, from the experiments he had been making through the day, he had strong hopes of arriving at the treasure in the course of a few hours, and that he should remain with them till the close of their labors for the night. This thrilling announcement added fresh ardor to their exertions, and wrought up their minds to the highest pitch of expectation and excitement. And, in imagination, new farms were already purchased, old ones richly stocked and improved, fine houses were built and furnished, wives were rustling in their new silk gowns, tables were groaning with dainties, and hundreds were lavished with a free hand in treats by embryo captains of militia or justices of peace on the occasion of their promotion, honors which their great wealth would be certain to bring them. Thus with lusty blows, and many a gleeful joke they delved on till about midnight. Gow now made another trial with his rods; and after assaying them some time from different points, with great seeming carefulness and accuracy, he rose with a satisfied air, and hastily throwing them aside as things whose aid was now no longer required, he joyfully announced to his associates that the hour which was to crown their labors with success was at last arrived; but that it was the hour likewise that would, very probably, put all their prudence and fortitude to the severest trial; for he must now apprise them that in those cases where any murder or other great wickedness had been committed in connection with secreting a treasure, there was generally considerable difficulty in securing it, even after it was fairly discovered, owing to the strange sights and noises which were seen and heard about the time of reaching and attempting to seize it. But these sounds or apparitions, as startling and terrible as they might seem, would hurt nobody, nor prevent securing the money, if no attention was paid to them; while if the attention at that critical moment was suffered to be diverted, and the eye withdrawn from the spot, the money somehow or other was almost sure to get away, or be so lost sight of that it could not be found again without a new course of digging and experiments.

This to be sure, might not be the case where any difficulty would occur, but it was best to be prepared for the worst; and therefore the instant it was announced that the money was reached, every man must have his senses about him, and confine them to the spot; and on no account to look off or suffer a glance, or thought, to stray to what might be doing around him, but grapple at the treasure as soon as it was laid open, in what

ever shape it be found, and hang on for life, though the very devils might be yelling about his ears. With startling caution he ordered the men to dig away the inequalities of the bottom, and level off a broad space where they had last been digging. With nerves agitated by fear and expectation they hurriedly went to work, and soon smoothed down a space sufficiently broad to meet the mind of their leader. He then formed them in a circle around him, and taking a heavy crowbar, and ordering every eye to be fixed intensely on the spot when he should strike and if any sign of hitting the money followed, to dig for their lives, he lifted high the heavy weapon and thrust it deep into the ground. A sharp, grating sound, as of the deadened clinking of metals under ground followed the blow. And a low, eager, suppressed shout of exultation simultaneously escaped from the lips of all the company; while almost at the same instant a deep unearthly groan issued from the nearest thicket striking the ear with horrible distinctness, and causing every heart to quake with apprehension. Gow quickly repeated his blow, and it was again followed by the same cheering sound from the earth, and the same, and still more startling groan from the thicket.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

A MODERN FAUST.

Among those individuals who should have been seen somewhere else yesterday morning, might have been seen at Mr. Recorder Baldwin's office of business a professional follower of the great Faust, vulgarly known as a "four printer." He was a case all sorts of a case—a walking edition of the striped pig, or in other words an uncorrected copy of the works of intemperance, scared up and bound by no teetotal rule entire abstinence. He looked blurred, or like a bad impression of worn-out wood-cut of our American eagle, or of a runaway negro.

"You were found sleeping out last night," said the Recorder. "Who and what are you?" addressing the badly set up bill of humanity in the dock.

"Me, I'm a poor—d—n poor specimen of the art preservative of all arts vulgarly called a "four printer," or "typo," said the printer.

"And need correction," said the affable Recorder. "I thought you were a foul case. Why were you not at your lodgings last night?"

"Because I lost my place—got out of sorts—had no quoin [coins] to get locked up any where else; in fact, out of cash, which is the copy of our existence. Ah! sir, I've felt the pressure of the times as well as other folks—have had a bad impression, and a heavy one, of the difficulty of justifying my actions by the right measure."

"But a correct man of your profession," said the Recorder, "would have been at his case setting up, at the time the watchman found you setting down."

"Yes, but I'm a gone case; and even if I were setting down instead of setting up, I don't see what alteration you should make in the copy of your verdict."

"You were lying down, sir."

"Yes, I had come to a period, that's a fact, and the watchman made a periculis of his arms to raise me up, and a note of admiration of my body, head downwards, while bringing me to his newfangled press to have a proof taken," replied the "four."

"The watchman charges you with being tipsy, sir."

"I rest my matter too much last night, that's a fact."

"When the watchmen placed you on your feet you did not stand straight—but leaned in every direction, and staggered about as though you were working off the first sheet of the new grand lottery on the side-walk."

"I thought, sir, that I was on rule and figure work; but Charley soon gave me a rap with something more than a sheep's foot, which in a measure straightened me. He well high distributed the matter of my upper case, sir—threw my brain into pit."

"I shall have to send you to the calaboose, sir, lock you up for thirty days."

"Thirty days! What! lock up my form for thirty days! Oh! you don't mean that, sir.—You have no rule for doing it. Why, sir, you might as well send me to lie on the gallies in the swamp at once. Thirty days in the calaboose! That would indeed be laying me on the imposing stone. Let me go this time, Mr. Recorder; I will see and correct all errors, avoid all outs, such as the watchman discovered, in future, and present a clear and revised proof-sheet of my conduct hereafter. I'll tell your honor what it is; that watchman who handles the book so often against me as if his oath was stereotyped, and as if he knew me like a book."

The Recorder told this modern Faust that he was fully impressed with the sincerity of his determination to reform, but that unless he got some other person than himself to vouch for it, he must give him a short situation, say thirty days in the calaboose.—[Pleasure.]

Every thing by its right Name.—A Whig paper has just been started in New York, called "The Weekly Humbug."

From the Bangor Democrat.

PARTY MEN AND PARTY POLICY.

A party cannot sustain itself unless it puts forward its best, ablest and strongest men, of undoubted party attachment and fidelity, and capable of sustaining themselves and their party, and serving the public acceptably. Your time-serving, twaddling, popularity-hunting, expediency men, courting the favor of their opponents and neglecting their own friends, should not be used or tolerated any more than those who are so weak that they are obliged to lean on others for support.

In selecting men for office, the question is too often asked, who will run best, or who will be most popular if appointed? Who will be the least objectionable to our opponents? And not, who is most suitable, can best sustain himself and his party, and best serve the public? Weak and inefficient men, whatever their present popularity, never answer only a temporary purpose, and such as are sometimes on one side, then the other, finding fault with this thing and objecting to that, supporting one candidate of the party and opposing or thrusting at another, and politically walking "all round my hat,"—are not worth consulting at the expense of what justly belongs to others. If they are capacious and dogged—

independent, as they term their perverse obstinacy—let them "go on their own hook," in their own chosen way—they are worth nothing as party men, and cannot be used without injuring the cause.

Those who do most, deserve most, is as true in a political, as that those who do best deserve best, in a moral sense. If your bold, effective, capable and talented working men are overlooked and neglected, and the timid, the weak, the vacillating and doubtful fill the offices, injustice is done the deserving, and the party suffers in consequence. What person would employ a dolt for school-masters, if a suitable teacher could be obtained? What person in the law would employ a blockhead to defend his cause, if he could obtain an able counsellor? What person would entrust his property or his interests in the hands of a man of doubtful competency or honesty, if he could find a man of ability and integrity?

The same principle holds good in politics. A cause always liable to attack and misrepresentation, must be defended—principles must be vindicated; and a party without judicious defenders, and able and active members, would soon fall to pieces. If, then, you would preserve, strengthen and enlarge a party, use strong men and the proper means to do it. Give every man his due, and place every member where he can do the most good.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

PARIS, OCTOBER 13, 1849.

Maryland.

THE POPULAR VOTE.

The New York Journal of Commerce gives the following as the majorities for Congressmen in the different Congressional Districts of Maryland. We believe they will be found nearly correct; and they certainly exhibit a very gratifying result.—A Democratic gain since the last gubernatorial election, of which the people of that State may well be proud, and for effecting which, at so important a crisis, they deserve the cordial thanks of the whole Republican Party.—In all the Districts, says the Journal, excepting the 31, the political lines were distinctly drawn. In that District the Democratic candidate was opposed by a fierce man, who probably obtained a few Democratic votes.

Districts.	Fed. Maj.	Dem. maj.
1st	295	
2d		185
3d		1564
4th		384
5th	795	
6th		573
7th	721	
	1611	2768
		1611

Van Buren majority in the State, do last year at Gov. Election, 1095 311

Van Buren gain, 784

From the N. Y. Journal of Commerce, Oct. 9.

Stoppage of the U. S. Bank.

The U. S. Bank has received a note, in few words, from the U. S. Bank of Pennsylvania, saying, you will pay no further liabilities of the U. S. Bank.

In consequence of this, the U. S. Bank has put up the following notice:—

"Bank of the United States in New York, New York Wednesday morning Oct. 9, 10 A. M. Notice is hereby given that the notes of the United States Bank of Pennsylvania will no longer be received at the Bank of the United States in New York."

Post Notes to the amount of forty or fifty thousand dollars, and perhaps a much larger sum, are due to-day and will be protested. On the presentation of a \$10,000 Post Note at the opening of the bank this morning, the holder was put off for an answer to 12 o'clock, and then answered in the negative.

The excitement in Wall street has been very great of course, and conjectures rife as to the real state of the case. The general impression seems to be, that there will of course be a general suspension of specie payments in Philadelphia. If such should be the case the suspension it is thought cannot extend to the banks in New York. Our Banks will stand firm and pay more easily than before, for one of their worst enemies was Post Notes, and that of course is out of the way.

An intelligent correspondent of the Journal of Commerce says, "The refusal by the Bank of the United States of this city of the notes of the Philadelphia bank is considered as the forerunner to a suspension in that

... puts forth
men, of un-
and capa-
party, and
time-serv-
efficiency
onents and
not be used
are so weak
ra for sup-

ation is too
no will be
will be the

And not,
himself and
Weak and
t populari-
pose, and
n the oth-
jecting to
party and
politically
worth con-
belongs to
dogged—
e obstina-
in their
othing as t
injuring

is as true
st deserve
effective,
overlook-
weak, the
injustice
suffers in
loy a dolt
could be
could em-
he could
on would
the hands
onestly, if
grity? A
itics. A
presenta-
st be vin-
defenders,
on full to
strength-
and the
his due,
n do tha

19.

... the fol-
the dif-
We bet-
they cer-
democratic
of which
nd for ef-
deserve
Party.—
aping the
In that
used by a
mocratic

em. maj.	185
	1564
	384
	573
	2768
	1611
	1095
	311
	784

O.
bankr.
words,
you will

the fol-

rk, }
M. {
United
reiv"
ousand
to-day
a \$10,-
a morn-
'clock,

y great
ate of
e, that
specie
case
banks
id pay
emies
way,
Com-
United
bank
n that

From the Boston Morning Post of Oct. 5th.
Destructive Fires in New York City.—We are indebted to a friend for a copy of the New York Atlas of Sunday morning, containing the particulars of a series of destructive fires which have occurred in that city, since 6 o'clock the preced-

FOREIGN NEWS.

CHINA.—Further difficulty.—By the Chung-

The President of the United States, the Albany Argus, of Monday says, after passing the last week in Albany, receiving the courtesies and hospitalities of the citizens of all parties, left town at an early hour on Saturday morning for Kinderhook, where we understand he will remain several days.

The returns of members to the State Legislature exhibit a great democratic gain, and what is of the utmost importance, the **REDEMPTION OF THE SENATE FROM THE CONTROL OF FEDERALISM.** The following, says the Boston Post, is copied from the North American, a strong federal paper printed at Philadelphia:

"Chester, Delaware and Montgomery.—In this Senatorial District the Van Buren men have elected their Senator by about 1200 majority. This will give to that party a majority in the State Senate."

Poland, Oct. 10, 1839. 3w9||

IV-415- 97

WHEREAS, on the fourteenth day of

Off. S. 1835. 3119

GIN, a Pauper of Rumford, who is bound to

NOTICE.—I hereby certify that I have giv-

me, and shall not hereafter claim any of his earnings or pay any debts of his contracting

FREEDOM.

son, Cornelius Peterson, a minor, his wife, with power to act and trade for himself until he shall be

For Caps, Collars, Cuffs, Neck
Ties, &c. &c.

Norway. Sept. 30, 1839. W. E. GOODNOW.
tf 7

Sept 20, 1900. 140000

will be at his Brick Kln, situated in the south
part of Paris on the road leading from the Gasse to Isabe

USAAC RANDALL

ATTORNEY AT LAW,
DIXFIELD, ME.

and vicinity that he has taken a Shop near Messrs. Cracker & Shaw's Store, on Paris-Hill, where all busi-

Paris, August, 15 1839.

